



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG

Social dialogue, Social rights, Working conditions, Adaptation to Change
Social dialogue, Industrial relations

Meeting: Sectoral social dialogue committee, **Extractive Industries**, Plenary session

Time and place: 04.06.2010

Translation: **FR, DE, EN, PL, ES**

Employers	Trade Unions
1. Mr. BORKOWSKI Zygmunt (PL)	1. Mr. ALVAREZ LIEBANA Juan Carlos (ES)
2. Mr. DIERCKS Thorsten (Euracoal)	2. Mr. BARTELS Ralf (DE)
3. Mr. GUTIERREZ Vincente (ES)	3. Mr. CARRAGHER Patrick (UK)
4. Ms. HEBESTREIT Corinna (Euromines)	4. Mr. DAMM Jean – Pierre (FR)
5. Ms. HULIK Gitta (Euracoal)	5. Mr. FERNANDEZ VAZQUEZ Victor Jose (ES)
6. Ms. LANNE Claire (IMA –Europe)	6. Mr. FOLKESSON Lars Erik (SE)
7. Mr. MALISZEWSKI Zbigniew (PL)	7. Mr. LESNIEWSKI Krzysztof (PL)
8. Ms. MARTIN GONZALEZ Mercedes (ES)	8. Mr. POTYRALA Dariusz (PL)
9. Mr. SCHALLERT Peter (Euromines)	9. Mr. RABI Ferenc (HU)
10. Mr. SCHNEIDER Thomas (DE)	10. Mr. ROTHLEITNER Bernhard (AT)
11. Ms. SREBREVA Atanaska (BG)	11. Mr. STANITZ Karoly (HU)
12. Mr. SCHULZE Burkhard (DE)	12. Ms. ZIEROLD Corinna (EMCEF)
13. Ms. STRACKENBROCK Ines (APEP)	
14. Mr. SZKOP Rafal (PL)	
15. Mr. UHLEMANN Robert (Euromines)	
16. Ms. WYART-REMY Michelle (IMA-Europe)	
17. ZHELJAZKOV Zhivko (BG)	

European Commission:

DLOUCHY Dorota DG EMPL F.1

GEISLER Hana DG EMPL F.1

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Welcome

Mr. Schulze welcomes participants.

2. Approval of the agenda

Agenda approved without changes. Mr. Damm proposes to discuss three issues under AOB:

- EC consultations on the Energy Strategy 2020 – possibility of the common opinion (?)

- Possibility of discussion on carbon tax in the second part of the year
- Exchange of views on Carbon Capture and Storage

Ms Strackenbrock proposes also to discuss EC consultations on electromagnetic fields.

3. Approval of the minutes 01/03/2010

Minutes approved without changes

4. Accidents Project: SSDCEI Summary Report on the project about trends and best practices concerning accidents of young workers and contractors in the mining industry, by Dr. Corinna Hebestreit Euromines.

http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/empl/sectoral_social_dialogue/library?l=/extractive_industry/2010/20100604_plenartagung&vm=detailed&sb=Title

Mrs. Hebestreit thanks IMA for the management of the project. She reminds that the questionnaire was sent to five countries. It resulted in a snapshot of the situation, but it was not intended to provide the Committee with pan-European data on accidents.

She also comments on difficulties identified during the project:

-Definitions: The definition of contractors raised difficulties because of linguistic problems. The original definition of young workers had to be revised to “inexperienced workers” (less than 3 years of practice)

- Available Statistics: Most Member States accident statistics do not separate specific groups of workers within their scope. A comprehensive statistical analysis of the situation of the target groups across the extractive industry in all 27 Member States was an impossible task, given the time and financial constraints.

- Original assumptions: The assumption that the situation with regard to contractual work in the extractive industry in Eastern and Western Europe would be similar proved wrong. Contracting out work in Eastern Europe is far less frequent than in Western Europe.

As far as results of the project are concerned Mrs Hebestreit underlines high level of awareness on the necessity of training newcomers. She adds that the study proved the urgent need to harmonise statistics across MS.

The study proved also that contrary to assumptions an accident frequency rate among young and newly hired people was below the average accident frequency rate. Experts suggested that this was because this group has just completed their training. It seemed that older, routine

workers had higher rates because they were less careful. Mrs. Hebestreit proposes that SSDC recommends here to maintain, continue and repeat training of new personnel.

Some good examples of such training available in many companies can be further disseminated. She asks members of the Committee to propose some additional recommendations.

As far as recommendation on contractors is concerned, she proposes to underline that a solid, good cooperation between both concerned employers and the workforce is necessary. She also adds the lack of exchange of information on accident frequency rates and causes between extractive operation and contracting company in many EU Member States does not facilitate the overall monitoring.

As the final recommendation, she proposes to forward the findings and recommendations to the SWPEI and to the national affiliates for further use.

Mr Damm underlines the importance of dissemination of good practices collected in the framework of this project. EMCEF will send the findings of the report to all affiliates. He also supports Mrs Heberstreit proposal to inform SWPEI on the results of this project.

Moreover, Mr Damm proposes that in 2011 the SSDC discusses also other target groups and works on recommendations to the national level.

Mr Diercks agrees that as far as young workers and contractors are concerned, the Committee should promote available best practices. He says that Committee should decide in what form it should be done (websites, leaflet, and dedicated website).

Ms Wyart – Remy will report on the results of the study to SWPEI at its next meeting. She informs members on the discussion of SWPEI and Eurostat on the statistics. There is a project implemented by Eurostat on harmonization of accident data but it does not cover extractive industries.

Ms Strackenbrock comments also on the lack of statistics concerning the accidents from countries outside EU.

In reply to the Polish employer statement calling for a deeper analysis of the developments at the national level, Mr Diercks proposes to make a series of the presentations on each of the countries represented here; starting with Poland.

Coming back to dissemination of the results of the project, Ms Wyart-Remy says that the website gives a possibility for regular updates, while brochure may be too static for the purpose.

The issue will be further discussed at the level of secretariats.

5. . **EU-Initiative: Sector Councils on Employment and Skills**

Short introduction by Jean Pierre Damm EMCEF. Presentation is available here:

http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/empl/sectoral_social_dialogue/library?l=/extractive_industry/2010/20100604_plenartagung&vm=detailed&sb=Title

Mr Damm presents the background and details of the initiative on skills council proposed by European Commission. He also poses three important questions:

- whether a separate forum on skills is need;
- who will have a leading role in this body;
- how the skill councils are going to be financed.

Please consult the slides for details.

DG EMPL representative replies to the question on financing, she informs members that the skill councils will enjoy similar financial support as social dialogue committees in terms of organization of meetings, interpretation and reimbursement. However, the organizations involved will not receive any direct support for dealing with additional workload.

As far as leading role of the social partners is concerned, it is up to the social partners to secure it in the rules of procedure.

DG EMPL makes a short presentation on the ongoing preparation of the skill council for textiles. Social partners in this sector did a study on the existing national councils, universities, research institutes with financial support of the Commission. They mapped the sector and organized two roundtables to discuss the need for such a council.

It took social partners three years to get to this point. If the textiles decide to establish the council, they will be a natural benchmark for the following ones.

Mr Diercks mentions that the skills issue is more important for other sectors. In his opinion at least in the coal industry, the companies are quite big and take care to a huge extent for training. He proposes, in line with discussions in the bureau, a 'wait and see' position.

In the opinion of Mr Damm the SSDCEI looks at the problems of skills, particularly in the context of restructuring. The additional working group can be organised by the SSDCEI on skills, but at this point there is no urgency to establish a skill council.

The Spanish representative underlines the importance of future skills. He agrees that the decision cannot be made on this day, but the issue must be on the agenda of the Committee.

The Commission representative adds that the SSDCEI can apply for funds for mapping the sector which does not oblige the social partners to create such a council.

The SSDCEI will come back to this question at the next meeting.

6. Recent reporting-results from the NEPSI project by IMA-EUROPE

The presentation is available here:

http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/empl/sectoral_social_dialogue/library?l=/extractive_industry/2010/20100604_plenartagung&vm=detailed&sb=Title

Mrs Lanne presents only basic information on the 2nd reporting on the implementation of the agreement, as NEPSI Council validating the result meets on June 22. She explains 2010 targets and preliminary results trends. She also presents tools used in NEPSI information campaign. Please consult presentation for details

7. The EU Raw Material Initiative:

SSDCEI draft status report by Dr. Corinna Hebestreit. The paper should be adopted by the SSDCEI till the end of 2010, and then it will be send to DG ENTR. Presentation is available here:

http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/empl/sectoral_social_dialogue/library?l=/extractive_industry/2010/20100604_plenartagung&vm=detailed&sb=Title

Ms. Hebestreit starts with an explanation of the current situation regarding the EU raw Materials Initiative. Her presentation focuses on the regional socio-economic impact of the extractive industry. She discusses possible direct and indirect employment effects and regional spread of the sector. She mentions also the issue of induced employment, meaning: persons employed in businesses sustained by re-spending of incomes generated by direct and indirect employment.

Please consult the presentation for details.

Mr. Damm thanks Euromines for this presentation which will be a basis for a common position on EU Raw Material Initiative.

The Commission representative informs members that DG EMPL has some newer data on employment, although it does not cover EU -27.

IMA supports regional and local approach proposed in this presentation. Ms Wyart-Remy welcomes the proposed shift from the focus on question of supply to the impact on the local level.

Dr Hebestreit asks members to send comments on the presentation to her by e-mail. The first

round of input should reach Euromines by the end of June. Euromines will prepare a draft text based on this presentation and comments by the end of August.

Eurocoal informs about their studies on regional impacts of coal mining that can be used to some extent for this exercise.

Spanish employer asks whether it is possible to add coal to this discussion. Euromines representative underlines that EU raw materials initiative does not discuss energy raw materials. However, it is possible to do this exercise for both energy and non-energy materials, but keeping them separately.

8. Miscellaneous

Mr Damm proposes to discuss two issues in 2nd half of the year:

- Carbon Tax
- Carbon Capture and Storage Directive

The Committee agrees to put these points on the agenda.

Mr Damm also proposes to make a contribution on EC consultations on the Energy Strategy 2020. These consultations close on 2 July. Due to the short time, he asks the SSDCEI to prepare a common position based on the document prepared for Copenhagen conference. He is supported by Mr Bartels representing German trade unions and Mr Diercks from Eurocoal. Both speakers mention the EC proposal of 30% emission cut, which is not acceptable for the extractive industries.

IMA underlines that the willingness of the Commission services to act stricter on the list of the "carbon leakage" industries (due to the lower price of carbon used) constitutes a problem now.

The secretariats will prepare the text of joint document. Mr Bartels will prepare a first draft and send it around to the secretariats.

Ms. Strackenbrock informs about consultations on EMF and encourages members to respond to this document.

Mr Diercks informs that he leaves a position of the Secretary General of Euracoal and thanks the members for good cooperation and understanding.